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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

THE PATENT APPLICATION of SCHMALJOHN AND HOOPER

Appln. No.: 09/491,974

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: January 27, 2000

Examiner: P. Brunovskis, P.

Title: DNA Vaccine Against Hantavirus Infection

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November 23, 2001

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated August 23, 2001 in connection with the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 3, 9, 12, 16, 17, 26, and 27 as follows.

B' 3. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said hantavirus is chosen from the group consisting of Seoul virus, Dobrava virus, and Hantaan virus.

9. (Twice amended) A method for inducing a protective immune response to a hantavirus protein in a mammal comprising

- B2 (i) preparing a nucleic acid encoding a hantavirus M gene segment protein comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 operatively linked to a promoter active in cells of a mammal, wherein said M gene segment protein includes at least one antigenic determinant;